Economic and Social Council

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Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 21 July 2015

[*on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/2015/30)*]

2015/23. Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the significance of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, and underlining the importance of its full implementation,

Reaffirming that the Global Plan of Action was developed:

(*a*) To promote universal ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[1] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[2] as well as other relevant international instruments that address trafficking in persons, and to reinforce the implementation of existing instruments against trafficking in persons,

(*b*) To help Member States to reinforce their political commitments and legal obligations to prevent and combat trafficking in persons,

(*c*) To promote comprehensive, coordinated and consistent responses at the national, regional and international levels to counter trafficking in persons,

(*d*) To promote a human rights-based, gender- and age-sensitive approach in addressing all factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons and in strengthening the criminal justice response, which are necessary to prevent trafficking in persons, protect victims and prosecute perpetrators,

(*e*) To raise awareness within the United Nations system and also among States and other stakeholders, such as the private sector, civil society organizations and the international and national mass media, and the public at large,

(*f*) To foster cooperation and coordination among all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, international organizations, civil society organizations and

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[2] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

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the private sector, and within various entities of the United Nations system, taking into account existing best practices and lessons learned,

Recalling its resolution 2013/41 of 25 July 2013, entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons",

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes an offence and a serious threat to human dignity and physical integrity, human rights and development,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including as coordinator of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons,

Recalling that the Inter-Agency Coordination Group was established to foster coordination and cooperation among relevant United Nations agencies and other international organizations involved in combating human trafficking,

Recognizing that the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, within its mandate, contributes to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action,

Recognizing also that the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, established consistent with the Global Plan of Action, aims at providing victims of trafficking in persons with humanitarian, legal and financial aid through established channels of assistance, such as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and welcoming contributions made to the Trust Fund by States and other relevant stakeholders,

Welcoming the high-level meeting of the General Assembly held during its sixty-seventh session, from 13 to 15 May 2013, to appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action,

Taking note of the decision of the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/192 of 18 December 2013, to appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action on a four-year basis, starting at its seventy-second session,

Taking note also of the decision of the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/192, to designate 30 July as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, to be observed every year beginning in 2014,

Recalling the continued role of relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional mechanisms and initiatives to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons,

1. *Reiterates* the crucial importance of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[2] which entered into force on 25 December 2003 and which provided for the first time an internationally agreed definition of the crime of trafficking in persons, aimed at the prevention of trafficking in persons, the protection of its victims and the prosecution of its perpetrators, and in this regard calls upon Member States that have not yet done so to consider as a matter of priority ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[1] and its Trafficking in Persons Protocol;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which was established

to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention and the Trafficking in Persons Protocol;

3. *Urges* Member States and other stakeholders mentioned in the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[3] and invites the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to continue to contribute to the full and effective implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including by means of strengthening cooperation and improving coordination among themselves in achieving that goal;

4. *Welcomes* the first observation of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons in 2014, and invites all Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, to continue to actively observe the World Day every year;

5. *Also welcomes* the publication of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2014*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime pursuant to the Global Plan of Action, looks forward to the next such report, to be produced by the Office in 2016, and encourages Member States to provide to the Office evidence-based data on patterns, forms and flows of trafficking in persons;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to integrate the Global Plan of Action into its programmes and activities and to continue to provide, at the national and regional levels, technical assistance to countries, upon their request, aimed at strengthening their ability to ensure full and effective implementation of the Global Plan of Action;

7. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within the framework of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, to continue to increase the activities of the Group related to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action;

8. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as coordinator of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, and other members of the Group, to continue to contribute in line with their existing mandates to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and in this regard invites the Office and other members of the Group to continue to elaborate, in cooperation with Member States, a list of concrete measures planned until 2017 aimed at implementing the Global Plan of Action and to present it in an appropriate manner to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as fund manager of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, to continue to encourage contributions by States and all other relevant stakeholders to the Trust Fund;

10. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

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[3] General Assembly resolution 64/293.

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing an update on the status of the contributions to and expenditures of the Trust Fund.

53rd plenary meeting
21 July 2015